

For Release Friday, December 26

TOURNAMENT DRAW ANNOUNCED

Defending three-time champions University of Toronto Blues draw the first round bye in Loyola's Centennial Hockey Tournament January 2-4.

While the defending tournament and Canadian college champs are sitting in the stands of the Pointe Claire Arena, the lone American entry in Canada's top holiday tournament, Harvard and McGill Redmen tangle in the opening game at 7 p.m. In the second game of the doubleheader host Loyola Warriors meet the Sir George Williams Georgians in a continuation of their fierce rivalry at 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 3, still out at the Pointe Claire Arena the losers of the first two games meet at 7 p.m. in a consolation match while the winner of the Harvard-McGill set-to meets Toronto. The bye for this round goes to the winner of the Sir George-Loyola struggle.

The scene of the tournament switches to the Montreal Forum for the championship game Sunday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. with the winner of the game facing the winner of the Toronto vs. McGill or Harvard for the coveted Centennial Cup.

In the opener two ancient combatants meet. The Harvard-McGill rivalry dates back to 1874 when the two schools met on the grid iron. McGill has had an off-season so far this year but the Redmen Coach Brian Gilmour feels his team can knock off the high flying Crimson from Harvard. Harvard has thirteen lettermen returning from a team that finished just a shade behind

Denver and Cornell in the U.S. - N.C.A.A. Championships last year. Coach Ralph Weiland is intent on being the first U.S. team to win David Molson's prized cup. An indication of their approach to the tournament is exemplified in their practice schedule. Weiland will have his squad working out on New Years Eve in Boston and then fly into Montreal for a practice at the Loyola Arena on New Years Day.

Both Toronto and Sir George Williams have been taking a rest waiting for injured players to return to the line-up and will be at full strength come January 2nd.

Dave Draper's Loyola Warriors have been using a different method. Instead of resting during the holiday season they have been active vs. non-conference opponents. A week ago Friday they mauled the OCAA eastern leader Carleton 9-3 and will play McMaster as a final prep for the tourney on December 30.

Loyola Coach Dave Draper feels that there will be between ten and fifteen players that will be performing in the Tournament that have N.H.L. potential. Heading the list of course is Loyola's Mike Lowe. Lowe earlier this year scored two goals in a St. Louis Blues uniform against Ed Giacomin of the Rangers in an exhibition game. Mike was the first college player ever to be selected as a first round draft choice by St. Louis. He has scored 103 goals during his tenure at Loyola and spearheaded Loyola to a 45-1 home ice record.

This years Tournament is rated strictly a toss-up between four clubs Toronto, Harvard, Sir George and Loyola. There have been two sudden-death overtime thrillers in the four year history of the Tournament and from all signs the games in the 1970 edition will be of the same exciting caliber.